

# THE SHELTON CHRONICLE

for faculty and staff of Shelton State

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## MONEY FROM JAMES' OFFICE HELPS SET UP HEAVY EQUIPMENT PROGRAM AT SHELTON

Quentin Riggins, special assistant to Governor James, was in Tuscaloosa last week to present a \$30,000 check to Shelton State President Tom Umphrey.

The money will be used to help establish a heavy equipment operators' program for the college.

Riggins, a former linebacker with Auburn during the 1980s, and currently part of Auburn's broadcast team, said "he was here to play Santa Claus in October on the part of Governor James."

"We want to thank Governor James' office for awarding the college this money. It will be used to help get this new program off the ground. We also want to thank Roland Pugh for his help. He was instrumental in working with the Governor's office to obtain the funds," Umphrey said.

According to Pugh, chairman of the board of Roland Pugh Construction Company and a former Shelton graduate, "construction firms in this area

need qualified people to work with this type of big equipment." "It's easier," Pugh said, "to teach people how to work with the equipment in school rather than in the field. It's much easier to learn the basics in school and then have it refined on the job. You can save years of learning by going through some formal education that teaches the basics," Pugh said.

According to Technical Dean Britt Turner, "the college has already been recruiting in the high schools in this area so that students will know about the opportunities and the need for people to operate these machines. People operating this heavy equipment can make a good living," Turner added.

For more information on Shelton's heavy equipment program, which is scheduled to begin Spring semester, call (205) 391-2451.

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## SHELTON SELLS 15TH STREET CAMPUS

Home Depot, a national building supply retailer, signed a \$4 million sales contract last week to buy Shelton State's 40-acre 15th Street Campus. The State Board of Education agreed to the sale.

Home Depot will have 120 days to develop site plans, do environmental testing and close on the property. The company will demolish the existing buildings.

## Common Concerns Club Holds First Meeting

"I was surprised and pleased with the turnout for the first meeting of the Common Concerns Club," said Philip Coleman, director of adult student recruitment.

The first meeting of the new club was held October 22 in the food court area of the Martin campus.

"The club is geared to students who face the common concerns of having to balance school, work, jobs, and family.

"The purpose is to have students meet other students facing the same situations so they can talk about what they're going through with others who understand. Hopefully, solutions can be shared to common problems along with giving each other encouragement," Coleman said.

Shelton Vice President Ted Spring, who was instrumental in the formation of the club, was on hand to help with the first meeting. Students raised various issues such as making the class schedule more flexible for working students by offering more classes in the evening and by expanding the class schedule to include Friday nights and Saturdays.

"Dr. Spring did a fantastic job of getting the club members to open up and have some frank and honest discussions about what's on their minds," said Coleman. Spring took notes during the meeting and said those suggestions will be given consideration.

Meetings are scheduled for Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the food court. A day-time version of the club is also



planned for students who can't attend night meetings. For additional information, call 391-2476.

## FACES 'N PLACES

\* SHARON DECK and WYNORA FREEMAN participated in a professional development activity recently at the UA. The two English faculty members attended a lecture entitled "Hesitations on Shakespeare's Othello," which examined the issue of race in the play. The lecture was given by British actor and scholar, Hugh Quarshie, who made theatrical history when he became the first black actor to break the color barrier in the Royal Shakespeare Company in the 1980s. He played parts which had previously been given only to white actors.

\* RICK SHELTON has been working with the Decatur City School System to help teachers in the fifth and seventh grades understand more about writing and writing assessment so they can better prepare their students to be good writers.

Shelton, a professional and accomplished writer, held after-school workshops for all K-7 teachers to discuss how to help students improve their writing skills so they could move into the "solid academic performance" range.

\* Shelton recently became a Supporting Partner for Caring Congregations. Caring Congregations is a group of nine churches and a temple that have banded together to form an organization to help people in the West Alabama area. Their first project has been Caring Days, a day care for adults with Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Pick's, Huntington's cancer, stroke, and alcohol-related dementia. Vicki Kerr is director of the organization.

\* Congratulations to **REBECCA AVERY**, Shelton State's first homecoming queen. Miss Avery was crowned last Monday night during Homecoming '98 activities. Over 300 people attended Monday night activities.

## ATTENTION FACULTY AND STAFF

A recent act was passed by the

legislature and signed into law by Governor James. This Act, which went into effect on October 1, 1998, deals with many Retirement System issues and benefits due to members of the Teachers Retirement System, the Employees Retirement System, and the Judicial Retirement Fund.

The Act provides for payment to the beneficiary or estate of an active and contributing member of the Teachers' Retirement system (when the member dies in service) of 100% of the member's accrued and unused sick leave subject to special limitations.

Any active and contributing member of the Teachers' Retirement system who dies while in service on or after October 1, 1998, meets the requirement of law for this payment to his or her beneficiary or estate. If anyone has questions, call (334) 242-7050 or the Teachers Retiree system, (334) 832-4140.

## Reminder.....

Recently all faculty and staff of the college received a Calendar Placement Request Form. Remember that all special events planned for this year must be approved and scheduled by the Master Calendar Planning Action Group. The purpose of this action group is to assist in scheduling and coordinating college events. Registering the event on this calendar will become part of special event planning and will allow the college to avoid supplantation of effort and the scheduling of major events on the same date.

Please complete a copy of this form for each planned event this year. Please check with Bruce Bizzoco or Tina Fitch (Fine Arts Department) to schedule a room before returning the form to the Public Relations Office.

Questions? Call ext. 2221.

## CONTEST CHANGING ITS NAME

To remember our past and to expand opportunities for winning our monthly contest, "WHERE WERE YOU IN THE 70'S?" will be changed to "Remembering Bonnie & Clyde's" and will include mystery songs from 1970-1989. Watch for the next issue of "The Shelton Chronicle" for the new contest.

In December there will be a special version of "Remembering Bonnie & Clyde's" and the winner will have the chance to win \$100 in cash and prizes.

Congratulations to Pamela Anderson Cole, last month's winner. Pam correctly identified The Ohio Players hit "Fire."

## ALUMNI NEWS

\* The Shelton Alumni Association would like to thank everyone that supported the Bonfire Monday night. The proceeds from the hot dog sales will go to benefit a needy family during the Holidays.

\* It is once again time for Santa to write to those little "sugar plums." The Alumni Association will be sending Santa Letters for \$5. The deadline is December 11, 1998. Call ext. 2252 if you have someone that would like to get a letter from Santa.